PANCY PRICES ASKED FOR ODDS AND ENDS FROM CUBA.

Spanish Buttons and Cartridges in Demand -Extra Charge for "Poisoned Bullets"-Ramboo at \$3.65 a Foot-A Load of Brass Junk with Cuban Magie on It-Even Hardtack Brings High Prices.

The war relie man-well, of course when you come right down to the matter, he's sorry that we had to fight the Spaniards. That is to say, he's very sorry that any of our fellows got hurt in the course of the fighting. War is undesirable. There's no denying that. But war is also a great spur to the relie business. And though from one point of view the relie man is real sorry about this Cuban campaign, why, it's an ill war that blows nobody good. Business is business. And how can you get Mauser cartridges off the bodies of dead Spaniards unless you first kill your Spaniard ?

Last February the relie man moved up to Broadway. Maybe you knew him down on Front street. Being pretty much of a back street, Front street was a good enough location before that time. The rents were low. the state of the war relic business. But last February there were signs portentous. Even without having a prophetic soul, the relie man scented the battles that were to be fought So he hustled around and got ready to do business when the army and navy should begin to smash things. The army and the navy having now smashed things, you will find some of the

pleces in the shop of the relic man.

Not a day passes that soldiers and sailors do not straggle in with something for sale. Most of them have Spanish buttons more or less battered. A yeoman from the New Orleans came to the relic man and offered him 500 spanish buttons at 35 cents aplece. He didn't get so much for them, but he sold them. The relic man now sells them at 50 cents apieco-He says that the sailors got a great many of these buttons from the Spanish prisoners The history of the naval fight gives the idea that most of the Spanish sailors came aboard the American ships without many of their clothes on. Perhaps they cut the buttons off their uniforms-those that had buttons-and took them along as presents. That would have

been very thoughtful Perhaps, however, the sallorman meant that he got them from Spanish soldiers. This seems rather more robable, as many of the buttons are marked "Infanteria," others have the crossed cannon with the pile of cannon balls, indicating the artiflery, and still others have crossed picks and a shovel the mark of the Engineer Corps. The buttons are popular ouvenirs, but there is also a large demand for Mansar cartridges, which sell at 25 cents aplece. or \$1 for five cartridges, with the clip that holds them. These are unexploded cartridges. Bullets which have been fired seem to be pretty scarce. The relic man has one of the kind the soldiers call "the poisoned bullets." These are for a Mauser rifle of a larger calibre than the regular size, and the bullet itself is sheathed in brass. The one that had been fired and was split and flattened, was covered with verdigris, which had also collected on some of those that had not been fired and were in their original The box was marked: "Pirotecnia Militar De La Habana. Cartuchois De Guerre Mod. 1871-89." The

"Piroteonia Militar De La Habana. Cartuchois De Guerre Mod. 1871-89." The relic man does not agree with this inscription. He doesn't think "the poisoned bullets" ought to be labelled "cartridges of modern war," for he takes "mod." to represent "modorn." He says they are a disgrace to a civilized nation. Of course it's dreadful that such things exist, but since they do the relic man disposes of the poisoned bullets at 50 cents each, twice what the regular ones sell for.

But these little knick-knacks fade into insignificance compared with the prize relic of the collection, the bell from the Cristocal Colon. It was a sailor who brought this in, and he finally sold it to the relic man, who now says he values it at \$1,000. It is not for sale, however. The relic man is waiting to find out whether the Colon is to be raised. If she is, he will return the bell to the ship. The sailor who had the bell said that he had also had the flag, but that he gave it up to the officers when he saw the regulations requiring him to do so. The relic man has one Spanish flag, however. It is a cheap one, which came from Porto Rico, It hangs in the window, amicably crossed with a hattered and batched American flag.

"Spanish Soldiers" Canteem" is the sign hanging on what looks like a section of giant cane or bamboo. This was sicked up at El Camey and may be had for \$3.65, which is probably the top notch price for about a foot of cane. Near it is a Spanish stirrup which is valued—selling price—at \$2.50. Big brass hooks, which look as though they may have come, as the card says, from Soanish ships, but may also have come from other ships than those of Cervera's squadron, are figured at 75 cents apice. The relic man got hold of some of the things in a rather queer way. He went to see a lunk dealer down near the river to negotiate about something else, and discovered that

things in a rather queer way. He went to see a junk dealer down near the river to negotiate about something else, and discovered that the man had just received a consignment of several tons of brass from Cuba. These things are, with rare honesty, simply given as coming from Cuba.

But even the most trivial the

sout something cise, and discovered that the man had just received a consignment of several tons of brass from Cuba. These things are, with rare honesty, simply given as coming from Cuba.

But even the most trivial things which really came from the war bring astonishing prices. Old brass buckles, such as are used in Spanish military harnesses, sell for 50 cents apiece. A brass medal which judging from the inscription, was given to the prize pupil in one of the schools, may be had here in New York, not for well doing in lessons, but for \$1.50 in cash. It was picked up by a soldier. Even American products go up in price if they have been to war. Hardtack boxes marked "Tampa."

"Newport News" and "Camp Witoff" are supposed to be worth \$1.50 to patrictic citizens. The biscuits themselves are offered at 10 cents!

Two old Spanish pulley blocks from the Reina Marcedes may be had for \$3.50 if anybody wants them so badly. Handy medical packages used by Spanish soldiers are marked 75 cents; a cartridge belt taken from a dead soldier in the trenches costs \$3.65. This belt was brought in by the fireman of the Segurance. He was a Cuban, or a Spaniard, or both; the rele man isn't quite sure which, At any rate, after the surrender of Santiago he was down there and found that he had a cousin among the Spanish prisoners. The cousin accommodatingly took him out to see the tranches where the battle had been lost, and the fireman mustered up resolution enough to carry away with him a cartridge belt and a couple of Mauser rifles.

An interesting relic of the bombardment of Sandan is a four-inch shell which was fired by one of Sampson's ships. It went through the walls of the soldlers' barracks and was picked up in the street. Attached to it is the resches where the battle had been lost, and the fireman mustered up resolution enough to carry away with him a cartridge belt and a couple of Mauser rifles.

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STEELE NAMES HIS STAFF.

Walkley Will Be Chief Clerk and Van Cott Heads the List of Assistants.

Ex-Judge Hiram R. Steele, who is to succeed opreme Court Justice-elect Marean as Disrear, announced yesterday that he would reare of the six Assistant District Attorneys Bre of the aix Assistant District Attorneys would be Alexander H. Van Cott, Luther W. American, Levi W. Naylor, Frank S. Angell, and soln T. Kemble. John H. Pret has also been stated for a selection of Mr. Walkley, who has been an active Democratic worker for twenty years, the appointees are all Republicans, and have been indiffered by the organization. Mr. Van Cott, who will probably be first assistant in the office, is asson of the late Judge Joshua Van Cott, and sayed as counsel for the Health Department and also as Assistant Corporation Counsel in Brooklyn before consolidation.

Died While Fixing the Christmas Tree. Peter Rupp, a varnisher, 35 years old, died siddenly resterday morning a is home, 207
Avenue B, supposedly from s .- Rupp came some it, supposedly from g. ... Bupp came some on Thursday night with a Christmas tree std several packages of toys for his three childran. After supper he started to fix the Christmastre. He worked for three or four hours and sodenly became ill. A doctor was summoned, but before his arrival Rupp was dead. He had been under treatment for the grip.

WAR RELICS ARE SOARING. MATURAL HISTORY FOR THE POLICE. The Professor's Talk on Arctic Reptiles Be-A limp and bedraggled sort of man was led

into the Old slip police station by Quinn, whose beat is along South street, early last Wednesday morning. Sergeant," said Quinn to Tighe, who was behind the desk, "this man is freezing to

death, and I thought"-"Who could blame me, Sarge," the man whimpered, "when Glacialis conterbix, the ice-snakes, find New York a pleasure resort these days and lie sweltering in the heat. B-o-o-of The man blew on his fingers.

When the what finds New York a pleasure place"" asked the Sergeant, "You know, Sarge, they're the snakes that live in glaciera an' "-"Doorman, call up Hudson Street Hospital-

go on! "And they come south in the winter just like the juncos-Junco hyemalis, I mean—and the snowflakes—you know, Sarg, the Piectrophenaz nivatis".

"Lord! yes, I know; go on," the Sergeant broke in

"Only they don't usually get so far south as this. They mostly live in the glaciers and travel with icebergs and don't come to such tropical climates as this very much. I never saw them ashore here before, and who car blame a fellow for freezing when it ain't warm enough to make an ice snake sweat lying still? But I wasn't freezing at all. I was just observing them when this officer came along and""Mr. Quinn, did you see anything?"

"What! that'll do. Go on Mr.-what's your

name?" asked Tighe. "Prof. Burten Bradley." continued the pris-"This policeman refused to allow me to remain and I will at best be able to add only a
few scattering facts to what is now known to
herpetologists about the glacialles."

What do these herp—herp—oh, well, what is
known about them things anyhow?"

Even with what I have to add very little is
known about the glaciallis genus. They live
almost exclusively at the bottom of glaciers,
where the temperature is 400 degrees below
zero, and catch the fish that live in the water
always present under glacierial lee. Their
meat becomes thoroughly cooked when exposed to a temperature at the freezing point,
and their blubber burns with the application
of the bare, unfrozen hand. The Esquimaux
capture the young reptiles with hook
and line. They use frozen fish for bait.
The youngsters scarcely ever see the water
till they are many months old. They burrow
through the ice and cause those remarkable
holes which are observed in icebergs. When
they find an arctic fox or polar bear frozen in
the ice they feed on it. They are not strong
enough to stand the squeezing at the bottom
of the glacier. They love the water, especially
that caused by the friction of the bottom of
glaciers.

"They are flat snakes, suitable for living in remain and I will at best be able to add only a

of the glacier. They love the water, especially that caused by the friction of the bottom of glaciers.

"They are flat snakes, suitable for living in cracks of the ice and narrow apertures. A tenfoot snake is nine inches wide ancarly his entire length, and only three inches thick at his thickest. One twenty feet long is eighteen inches wide and six inches thick. No other creature has so much blubber in proportion to its weight. One can move its whole length by wrigging it with a finger. It quivers. This blubber does not need to be tried out to nurify it. In this cilimate it runs like coal oil and looks like good whiskey—yum, yum!

"It sometimes happens that there is a squeeze in the glacier during a flow and they are driven to the ton of the ice. The holes they make are as thick as gophers, only long and narrow. The ice is scratched in them by the scales on their backs. They may be seen lying around panting with the unusual heat on the ice, but they soon get used to it and wander overland exploring and food hunting. Like hounds, they hunt in pairs, and the Esquimaux say that polar bears are treed on the North Pole, but it probably isn't so. It's merely an Esquimau joke.

"When the Danish expedition for Greenland introspection was sixty miles inland from Ivik-

nounds, they hunt it pairs, and the Esquimaux say that polar bears are treed on the North Pole, but it probably isn't so. It's merely an Esquimau joke.

"When the Danish expedition for Greenland introspection was sixty miles inland from Iviktut a colony of these snakes was found. Prof. Gnore Berlson and I were informed of its presence by two Esquimau and we went to see. Our approach alarmed them and we were able to shoot only two. Several dozen made their escape. Those that travelled over the slippery ice curled up like measuring worms, and with the spade-like end of their tails digging into and crumbling the ice they shoved themselves ahead like a corset steel jumps when one holds the ends together and then lets go.

"Is that plain, Sarse? Glad of it. They shot ahead a dozen or so yards or rods, according to their size. When they came to a precipice a little ways beyond, they stretched out flat on the sir, and sailed ahead. We could not see how far they sailed, because they were biuish white in color, so that they were invisible. I saw a polar bear cub waking along one day, and he disappeared all of a sudden. He had walked right into the mouth of one of the big ares. I've got his hide yet—the bear's I mean. I killed the snake and bear at one shot—the greatest shot ever recorded so far as I know.

"Now, these snakes on South street are remarkable because of their unusual playfulness. Life is a serious matter in the arctics for all creatures, and only the birds, the scals and foxes are playful. The snakes, owing to the unusual climate they live in, are especially lacking in what are called 'games' by students of natural history. These snakes just around the corner are as playful as they can be. They stand on their tails and wave their heads in the air and show their curved teeth. Just now they were feeling the electric lights, and I saw an are light where the till of one approached. the corner are as playful as they can be. They stand on their tails and wave their heads in the air and show their curved teeth. Just now they were feeling the electric lights, and I saw an are light where the tail of one approached one of the posts, which proves the presence of monometric crystals of carbon there. The creature seemed to be enjoying the sensation of the current. Another one of the reptiles came and wrapped itself around the post. It raised its wedged tail so that it formed an are light of especial brilliancy. One of the smaller reptiles got hold of a cat and played with the beast for some time before biting off pussy's head. A big Sr. Bernard dog from the Coenties silp saloon was devoured also. Seven snakes each took a chunk and the dog was gene.

"When the lights went out in the South Ferry houses seventeen of these snakes were curled over so that they made excellent pipes, and in this way a great sunburst was made under the original chandelier. It was wonderful. Now the regu"—

Just then Quinn broke in:

"Say, Sergeant, ain't you got any of them lists of reptiles and things"—

There was a clatter and a clang as the ambulance drew up at the door, and a boyish doctor bobbed in before Tighe could answer.

"Haven't I seen you before?" he remarked pleasantly to the "professor," "Yes, I thought so. Same oid thing, Send him to Heilevue," and the ambulance clattered away again.

UNDERTAKERS MUST BE LICENSED. Must Register with the Health Board Burial

Permit Bureau Before Jan. 1. Undertakers, sextons, and cemetery ke pers must register their names and residence, and the character of their duties in registry books provided by the Health Department before Jan. 1 or they will be liable to punishment for misdemeanor and to a fine of \$50, which the sanitary code says shall be collected in a civil action to be brought by the Board of Health. Not one of them has registered yet.

The provisions of the sanitary code requir-

ing registry of undertakers, &c., may be found in section 172, page 66. This section will be strictly enforced after Jan. 1. New books have been provided for the purpose and put in been provided for the purpose and put in charge of the clerk of the Burial Permit Bureau. The section of the code requiring registry, which practically means an undertaker's license, has been printed, as the law requires, in the Chiv Record, and due notice has been sent to those affected by it. Therefore, the clerk of the bureau says, it behooves those interested to step up and comply with the law. Another provision of the sanitary code, not generally known perhaps, is found in an amendment to section 170 passed by the last Legislature, relative to the construction of coffins, Ac. in the laterest of public health. The amendment is as follows: "Every dend body to be deposited in any tomb, vault or cemetery in the city of New York shall be placed in a metallic, or tin-lined box, or a box so constructed as to prevent the issuance of any liquids therefrom."

Out-of-town undertakers have been the chief offenders in the matter of transperting improperly sealed coffins through the city. No transit permits will be granted after Jan. I until it is shown that this amendment to the code has been compiled with.

A provision prohibiting the tolling of funeral bells without a special permit is as follows:

Sgc. 198. That no large or church bell shall be rung or tolled at any funeral in said city without a permit therefor from this department, nor shall such bell be rung or tolled at any other time therein to the prejudice or pecil of the life or health of any Here is one of interest to owners of dogs and ther noisy pets:

other holey pots:

SEC, 196. That no person owning, occupying, or
having charge of any stable or other premises shall
keep or allow thereon or therein any dog or other
animal which shall, by noise, disturb the quiet or
repose of any person therein or in the vicinity to the
detriment of the life or health of any human being.

Commissioner Simis Restores Salaries

When Charities Commissioner Simis of the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens took office at the beginning of the year he was forced to pare down the salaries of most of the employees in the department so as to keep within the appropriation. He succeeded in getting a more liberal appropriation for the coming year, and yeaterday he made all the employees happy by officially notifying them that their salaries would be restored to the standard which prevailed before consolidation went into effect. NOTES OF LEGAL EVENTS.

The new act of Parliament giving defendants in criminal cases in England the right to testify in their own behalf has brought up many interesting questions for determina-tion in the Court for Crown Cases Reserved. in which the Lord Chief Justice and four or five other Judges of the High Court sit together to pass upon criminal cases which have been reserved for their consideration by magistrates or trial Judges sitting singly. In the course of the argument of such a case recently Lord Russell of Killowen mentioned a curious incident in his own experience which turned out unfortunately for a defendant who was arguing his own case to the jury. "I remember a case," he said, "In which a very innocent remark of my own ellcited the fact of a previous conviction. A prisoner was addressing the jury, very effectively, as I thought, on his own behalf. But he spoke in a low voice, and, not hearing some part of his observations, I said: What did you say? What was your last sentence? 'Six months, my lord,' he replied. This response, as may readily be appreciated, was practically destructive of the prisoner's fence in the estimation of the jury.

We have received the text of the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the case of Henderson, to which we referred last week as having been secided on the 16th inst. The question was one of power on the part of the Surrogate of Kings county to correct a mistake in an executor's accounting which had resulted in a decree charging the executor with \$10,000 more than the amount with which he was properly chargeable, the decree having been signed four years before the executor sought to have the correction made. In holding that the Co te of Civil Procedure allows the Surrogate to cor rect such an error, even though more than two years have elapsed since the making of the decree, Judge O'Brien, who writes the opinion of the Court of Appeals, concedes that what he says "may seem to be in conflict with the decision in re Tilden (98 N. Y., 434) and in re Hawley (100 N. Y., 206)," but he insists that the conflict if any is with the reasoning practitioners in the courts of Surrogates will, we think, be glad that the Court of Appeals has been able to distinguish the cases and establish the rule that the Surrogate's Court has ample power to correct errors in its rec-ords, without being limited in that power or deprived of it by the lapse of time.

sons engaged in the retail liquor traffic came before the December term of the County Court of Suffolk county. George Van Ausdall, Jr., of Huntington was tried upon an indictment charging him with having sold liquors to a minor under 18 years of age, in violation of known as the Raines law. The defence was that the person to whom the sale was made, one Frank Wall, represented that he was over 18 years old and that Van Ausdall sold him the liquor in reliance upon that representation and believing it to be true. Wall himself testified on the trial that he told the defendant that he was above 18 in order to obtain the liquor, but Wall's mother proved that the statement of the young man was untrue in point of fact. The Court (County Judge Benjamin H. Reeve of Greenport) held that the assurances of the minor as to his age were wholly immaterial and that the only question for the jury was whether liquor was sold by the defendant to a person under 18; if it was, the defendant was guilty. Under this instruction, which eliminated the question of the defendant's intent and good faith. Van Ausdall was convicted. The Court evidently believed in the honesty of his purpose, however, for he imposed a fine of only

The unjust aspersion upon the character of well-known actress by dragging her name has called public attention to a defect in the law of this State so far as co-respondents in divorce are concerned. As the law now stands a man or woman named in a complaint for divorce as the paramour of the defendant has no legal right to be heard in the case in his or her own behalf. In Clay vs. Clay (21 Hun., 609) the General Term of the Supreme Court in this department held that where the com-plaint charged that the adultery was committed with a woman named therein the woman could not be allowed to come in and defend where the accused husband had failed to do so, but that as a matter of favor she should be permitted to attend the hearing and crossexamine the witnesses and give testimony herself. In the later case of Quigley vs. Quig-Fifth Department suggested that the court went to the very verge of its discretionary authority in the Clay case, and declared that the English practice of allowing the party with whom the adultery is alleged to have been committed to come in as a co-respondent does not prevail here. We think it ought to be made to prevail by the enactment of an appropriate amendment to the Code of Civil Procedure, based upon the provisions of the Eng-

A curious question in bankruptcy has arisen pefore Judge Francis C. Lowell in the United States District Court in Boston. A man named O'Connell recently obtained his discharge under the new Bankrupt law. He had been convicted of a criminal offence and rentenced to be imprisoned for one year and to pay a fine of \$500. His term of imprisonment has expired, but he is still detained in jail for non-payment of the fine. This fine was mentioned in his bankruptey petition as one of his debts, and he asks to be released on the ground that the debt was discharged by his discharge in bankruptcy. The Bankrupt law provides that a discharge in bankruptey shall release a bankrupt from all of his provable debts except United States and State taxes, judgments in actions based on fraud, claims not scheduled in the proceeding and claims arising out of emtezzlement or other breach of trust. These exceptions do not include in terms a fine in a criminal prosecution; but the question still remains whether such a fine is a "provable debt" within the ple ex. rel. Gately vs. Sage (13 Appellate Division Reports, 139), Mr. Justice Cullen of Brooklyn, speaking of just such a fine, said: The fine is not collected by proceedings against the property: it is not discharged by the defendant's banrkuptcy or insolvency, and he can only be relieved from it by appli cation to the court." .

From a summary prepared in the office of the Supreme Court Reporter at Albany, we learn that in the year 1898 the Appellate Division in the First Department has made 1,004 decisions; in the Second (Brooklyn), 753 decisions; in the Third (Albany), 407 decisions; and in the Fourth Department (Rochester), 578 decisions. It should be noted that the figures represent the work of seven Judges in the First Department, while there are but five Judges in each of the others. In this summary the number of reported opinions written by each Justice of the Appellate Division is given as follows: Ingraham (1), 116; Rumsey (1), 104; Goodrich (2), 87; Barrett (1), Cullen (2), 84; Hatch (2), 84; Woodward 2), 77; Patterson (1), 75; Bartlett (2), 75; Mo-Laughlin (1), 69; O'Brien (1), 66; Van Brunt 1), 58; Follett (4), 55; Hardin (4), 53; Landon (3), 49; Merwin (3), 40; Adams (4), 37; Parker (3), 35; Herrick (3), 33; Ward (4), 30. and Putnam (3), 27. The figure in parenthesis after each name indicates the judicial department to which the Judge is assigned.

In a decision rendered by the Supreme Court of Indiana which we find in the pamphlet number of the Northeastern Reporter for Dec. 16, 1808, it is held that an indictment which charges the defendant with having which charges the defendant with having stolen property belonging to Jackson A. Pruitt and Frank A. Pruitt is not sustained by proof that the property belonged to Jackson A. Pruitt and Franklin A. Pruitt. The record on appeal did not contain the swidence, and without it the court would not assume that Frank and Pranklin meant the same person, and pronounced the variance fatal. It is such decisions as this that sive rise to lynch law and Whitecaps in Indiana. IRON FOR ALL THE WORLD.

OUR MANUFACTURERS RUSHED WITH FOREIGN ORDERS.

Usually Prices Fall Off in the Winter, but This Year There Has Been a Slight Advance-We Manufacture for Russia, Japan, Africa, Australia and England. The astonishing advance in the iron industry in the United States continues with no sign of a falling off. Early in the month THE SUN showed how in two decades the country had sompletely reversed export and import business in iron. Where in 1880 the imports of iron footed up \$70,000,000 and more and the exports only \$13,000,000, this year the exports foot up \$80,000,000 and more and the imports \$15,000, 000. When that article was written the United States led the world in the iron industry. The past month has served to increase the lead to a wonderful extent. Orders are coming in from all parts of the world to the manufacturers of iron and steel in the United States for all manner of product manufactured and unmanufactured. Yesterday morning Secretary of State Hay received a cablegram from Am basuador Hitchcock at St. Patersburg, who is about to retire from that post to su retary of the Interior Bliss in the Cabinet, that he had been officially notified that a contract for 80,000 tons of steel rails for the Eastern Chinese Railway had been awarded to the

Maryland Steel Company. Yesterday morning's papers contained the news that another contract for 32,000 tons of steel rails to be used in Australia had been awarded at Victoria to the same company The Weekly Review of Dun & Co. resterday

said of the booming industry: "The story of the iron is like a dream. With 25,000 tons Bessemer pig sold at Pittsburg for \$10.60 and gray forge at \$9.40, and Chicago sales limited only by the capacity of the works, and Eastern sales so numerous and so large as to raise the price 25 cents, there is a demand for finished products which includes at Philadelphia 4,000 tons of plates for export to South America. 3,000 tons at Chicago, where works are crowded, 80,000 tons steel rails by the Maryland Steel Company for Asiatle Russia, 35,000 tons for Australia against British blds at Pittsburg, and about 10,000 tone domestic at the East, 6,600 tons structural work at Chicago and Pittsburg and 8,000 tons for ear builders at Chicago, all the works there being crowded, with heavy buying of sheets and wire rods and sharp competition at the South in cotton ties, a pending contract for 20,000 tons cast pipe for Yokohama and sales of smaller quantities in each class too numerous to mention. Prices of iron and steel products have not materially changed, although the tone is everywhere stronger, and for wire nails quotations have been advanced to \$1.30 at Pittaburg. But this country is beating the world in this industry. All this business is done with full belief that the next year's demand will be greater than ever before, and it is creditable, especially in the iron and steel business, that so little advance in prices of finished products has been made. The range of prices is nearly 20 per cent. lower than in 1892, indicating an astonishing increase in the quantity of products exchanged.

lower than in 1892, indicating an astonishing increase in the quantity of products exchanged.

The sire reporter hunted up some of the iron and steel men yesterday. Their testimony all bore out what has been said. They said that heretofore in the United States the winter months had been very dull in the iron trade. The manufacturers always wantel to keep their mills and factories running, and to do that they had every year when winter came reduced the price of their products. This reduction had been a necessity until this year. This year there had been little or no abatement in the orders for home consumption and at the same time enormous orders had been coming in steadily from abroad, so that in place of the customary decrease in the price there had been a slight increase and there was almost certain to be a further increase because the demand for quick delivery showed signs of getting far ahead of the supply. The natural result of that would be that the person who wanted the product the most quickly would offer a little more, to get it first, and there would be an advance.

Some idea of the extent of the foreign orders that have come to this country the past year may be had from this list, which includes a very small part indeed of the whole.

The Maryland Steel Company, for Siberia, two orders, one for 35,000 tons and the other for 80,000 tons of steel rails.

The Maryland Steel Company, for Australia, two orders, one for 14,000 tons and the other for 32,000 tons of steel rails.

The Carnegle Steel Company, 30,000 tons of steel rails for South Africa.

The Lackawanna Company, 5,000 tons of steel rails for South Africa.

The Lackawanna Company, products other than steel rails, 10,000 tons.

The Carnegle Company, products other than steel rails for Company, products other than

steel rails for Australia.

Illinois Steel Company, products other than steel rails, 10,000 tons.

The Carnegle Company, products other than steel rails, 85,000 tons.

E. D. Wood & Co., products other than steel

It. D. Wood & Co., products other than steel rails, 9,000 tons.

None of these orders in this branch of the business that have been received from abroad have been nearly as large and they are still soming in. In the electrical branch of the business there is the same story. Large orders from abroad are being received by all the great companies. Yesterday the Westinghouse Company of Pittsburg made a large shipment of electrical traction supplies, to Corea for a street railway.

The various locomotive works in the country are being kept as busy as are the iron and steel companies and the electric manufacturing companies. The Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia and the Schenectady Locomotive Works in Philadelphia and the Schenectady have each received large foreign orders recently, some of them from England herself.

A notable thing about the advance in the iron business and the great increase in orders is that there has been so far no attempt at a squeeze on the part of the manufacturers. Prices have gone up only as they have been forced up by the increased demand for finished product. The iron men who taiked with the reporter said that this policy was established in the travie because it was the paying policy in the long run.

COTTON LEFT IN THE FIELDS.

The Crop a Failure in Parts of Louisiana and Mississippi.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 24,-The indications now are that New Orleans will lose its place for this season as the largest cotton port in America, a distinction it has had for more than a century Galveston will succeed it. This result is brought about as much by the low price of cotton as by the size of the crop. While the crop is generally supposed to be a very large one, this is not the case in the district tributary to New Orleans, where the weather has been bad and the yield has been so poor that in many instances it will not pay to pick it. Thousands of acres have been abandoned and the cotton allowed to rot in the fields. In Franklin parish as much as 60 per cent. of the cotton is still standing in the fields and will not be picked; and in the hill parishes of north Louisiana from 20 to 40 per cent. of the cotton has been abandoned The farmers are still discussing what to do in

the matter, and the experience of this season will undoubtedly drive many of them out of cotton culture. State cotton growers' associations were organized in Mississippi and Louistions were organized in Mississippi and Louisiana during December, and addresses issued
calling upon the farmers to abandon the cultivation of cotton if they wish to escape ruin.

In the Yazoo delta the cattlemen are renting
cotton fields with the ungathered crops still
standing and turning their cattle into them,
Cattle love cottonseed and fatten rapidly on it,
and many are so fattened, although experts
say that the seed gives a decided flavor to the
heef. This plan of letting the cattle feed on
the cotton left unpicked will recoup the losses
of some of the farmers on the year's crop.

On the Louisiana side of the river the blueness over the cotton situation is most intense,
and if it is practicable cotton will be almost
entirely abandoned as a crop in that region.
Every one has suffered by the failure of the
crop, both in yield and price, and the mer
chants who advanced money on cotton find it
impossible to collect their debts. When they
ask for what is owing they have the deserted
cotton fields pointed to them, and are told to
go and collect their money.

Several meetings of farmers and others have
been held in that region, at which it was declared that cotton could not be grown with
some other crop for it. Hice and cane will be
tried instead. The land is well adapted for
these crops, being all alluvial and lying low
enough to be readily watered. It is predicted
that next season the entire country between
the Ounchita and the Mississippi, which since
its first settlement has been given up to cotton,
and where was grown much of the Orleans or
long staple cotton now so unfavorably affected ana during December, and addresses issued

iong staple cotton now so unfavorably affected by the importation of Egyptian cotton, will be devoted next year to other crops. Big frriga-tion plants, similar to those in southwestern Louisians, will be erected, and the lowlands will be devoted to rice, a crop which calls for little cultivation and is very cheaply raised.

NOTES OF THE OPERA.

To-morrow night Jean de Resake will be beard for the first time during the present sea-son. "Romeo et Julistto" has been selected as the opera in which he shall make his reap-pearance. It will indeed be a Polish night at the Metropolitan. Edouard and Jean de Reszke and Praxede Marcelline Kochanski Stengel. ommonly called Marcella Sembrich, will be heard as Juliette. The last time she and Jean de Resnke sang the opera together was four years ago, and the performance was given at Monte Carlo. In view of the Polish character of the east to-morrow night, Jean de Resske proposed that the programme should be printed in a way to empha-size the fact. Pol. Plançon said that he was perfectly willing to be described as Polski Planchonschka, while Alberski and Bauermeistrovitsch were transformations easy to make as Mancinellinski. But the programme will not be altered to this extent, although the national character of the performance will doubtless be appreciated those who realize that they are listening to the two greatest singers that Poland has produced, two greatest singers that Poland has produced, and the two greatest, moreover, that the world knows to-day. Doubtless Jean de Reszke would not have selected the night of the Christmas celebration for his debut had it been possible to arrange matters just as he would have liked them; but that was out of the question, and it is really a matter of small importance with so popular a performer when he appears. Nor is the opera he selects of very great importance. In spite of the fact that "Homeo et Juliette" has been sung thrice this season, there is every probability that the audience to-morrow night will be one of the largest of the year.

Maurice Grau had to call yesterday on Signor Bensuade, one of Mr. Eliis's singers in Philadelphia, because his baritone scheduled for resterday's matinée was ill. M. Albers was indeed ill on Wednesday, when "Carmen" was sung. Under ordinary circumstances an apology would have been made for him. Mr. Grau sent over Signor Ceppl and Mme. Mantelli to sing in "Aida" at Philadelphia last week, and the interchange of singers, frequent as it has been, employs none of the stars of the company. It is only in the case of the some what less important artists that these courtesies are employed. Mr. Grau has plenty of stars—more, indeed, than he knows what to do with. They all want to sing, and they all feel that they are being slighted to the advantage of some other singer unless their names appear on the programmes three times a week. With a list of singers including Sembrich Melba, Eames, Nordica, Lilli Lehmann, Jean and Edouard de Reszke, Ernst Van Dyck, and Edouard de Reszke, Krist van Dyck. Victor Maurel, Anton Van Rooy and Albert Saléza it can readily be seen that not all the stars can sing at every performance. But they would like to. It takes an infinite amount of tact and patience to deal with the husbands, managers, personal representatives, and others who daily appear to protect the rights of their principals. That they are kept in a condition of comparative quietude and contentment is a great proof of Mr. Grau's powers as a diplomatist. Nobody not in the profession can realize how hard it is to compel a singer sometimes to appear in a not in the profession can realize how hard it is to compel a singer sometimes to appear in a part and then receive \$1.500 for it. But singers are often unwilling at the Metropolitan when it comes to a question of something which seems in the slightest degree infra dig—and their standard of dignity is a high one. Jean de Reszko used to receive at the opera a

salary of \$1,250 and 25 per cent, of the receipts when they exceeded \$5,500. When he sang the receipts frequently amounted to more than \$10,000, so that his earnings amounted to a very fair sum. But he was entitled to it, as without his presence on the stage there would have been no \$10,000 audience in the theatre. This year he sings with Maurice Grau under a different arrangement. He receives a salary. There were, of course, performances at which he received no percentage; but when which he received no percentage; but when that happened it was a result which the tenor was perfectly willing to accept. He knew that he had not attracted the public to an exthat gained him extra compensation. One singer with Maurice Grau this winter has made a most unusual arrangement. He receives payment not only when he sings, but also when he does not sing, in case certain conditions exist. If his name has been announced for a week and he is taken iil before the performance he receives one-quarter of his salary. He exacts terms: he receives \$1.300 for every appearance. But when he is announced and does not sing he gets \$300. The theory is the same here that exists in the case of M. de Reszke. This tenor believes that the announcement of his name will mean a certain increase in the sale of seats, and whether he appears or not he considers himself entitled to profit by that element of his value to his impresario. So far, even without appearing very frequently, he has made a comfortable income, although only one-quarter of what he would have carned if he had sung every time his name appeared on the posters. Such a contract is quite unprecedented here, and there was many a heartache in the company when it was learned that this ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that this ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that this ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that this ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that this ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that the ingenious plan had been tried with success on the management. The question of salaries at the Metropolitan is alearned that the will prove one of the great that happened it was a result which the tenor

Andreas Dippel, who in private life looks so youthful that one can scarcely believe that he has sung for eleven years, has a répertoire which illustrates well the versatility and equipment of the best German singers. He made his début at Bremen as the Pilot in "The Flying Dutchman." Since that time he has appeared in fifty-five operas. He sings now the tenor rôles in "Martha," "Il Flauto Magico," "Un-dine," "La Fille du Régiment," the "Euryanthe," "The Taming of the Shrew."
"Don Giovanni," "Mignon," "Il Bar-biere di Seviglia," "Der Freischütz," "Die Nachtlager von Granada," "Il Trovatore,"
"Die Drei Pinto," "Die Goldene Kreuz," "Un Ballo in Maschera," "Alessandro Stradella," 'Lohengrin." "The Bells of the Hermitage." "Lohengrin," The Bells of the Hermitage."

The Merry Wives of Windsor," "Die Haldeschlaet," "Le Domino Noir," "Faust," Erik in "Der Fliegend e Hollander," "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg," "Siegfried," "Adda," "Czar und Zimmermann," "Les Huguenots," "Carmen," Asrael, "The Vassal of Szibeth," "Diane de Solange," "L'Africaine, "Der Barbier von Bagdad," "Tannhäuser," "Lavalleria Rusticana," "Fidelio," "Fra Diavolo," "Die Walkure," "Der Kuss," "Das Geheimniss," "Wilhelm Tell," "La Traviata," "Norma," "La Bobème," "Das Heimchen am Herde," "A Basso Forto," Das Rheingold," and "Götterdämmerung," That is an astonishing répertoire for one whose stage experience has lasted no longer than eleven years. It means an average of five new roles every year. Herr Dippel is willing to learn even more. He did not object to Tyball in "Romeo et Juliette," but he shied emphatically when Maurice Grau tried to persuade him that David was a better rôle in "Die Meistersinger" than either Walter or Hans Sachs, and that he owed it to his artistic reputation to sing it. Herr Dippel was firm, though, Jacques Barr will probably sing the rôle.

Albert Saléza's acting as Escamillo last 'The Merry Wives of Windsor," "Die Hai-Albert Saléza's acting as Escamillo last

Wednesday was so splendidly picturesque. fervid and imaginative that it should not have been marred by a few conventions of operation acting which were noticeable from time to time. The least agreeable instance of this came after the flower song in the second act. M. Saléza was compelled to repeat it; but it was evidently quite impossible for him to do so without taking again from his coat the blossom about which he was singing. At the performance of "Le Nozze di Figaro," during the preceding week, Mme. Sembrich, when the little duet was repeated, tore up the paper on which she had presumably written the first on which she had presumably written the first letter and then sat down to write a record. Such details in this distinguished, modern and finished operatic acting form the conventional school that has already passed out of existence so far as the great singers are concerned. M. Saléza is too intelligent an artist not to grow out of these earlier defects. He was so nervous during the first act, and so fearful that he might lose control of himself, as to suppress to an unusual degree his own dramatic temperament. But he let himself go later, with the result that Mile, de Lussan walked about him much of the time with the same respect and consideration that she would show toward a red-hot fron. M. Saléza comes from a town near chough to the Spanish frontier to know the type that Don José represents and to sympathize with it. An occasional sense of effort is another imperfection in the work of this new singer, who is destined seemingly not only to become one of the great tenors of his time, but also a New York finvorite. To him and Anton Van Rooy have gone the honers among the new arrivals. Mile, de Lussan's Carmen showed that her conception of the part had changed materially in regard to the dramatic side. She gave it a force and vigor that it never possessed in her former performances. To-day it is second only to the achievement of Emma Calvé in the same rôle, a performance which dwarfs all others seen here. letter and then sat down to write a record.

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NOTES OF MUSIC EVENTS.

The fifth week of the season at the Metropolitan Opera House will begin to morrow night with a repetition of Gounod's "Romeo et Juliette." M. Jean de Reszke will make his first appearance here this season, and Mme. Marcella Sembrich will sing Juliette for the first time at the Metropolitan. The Juliette for the first time at the Metropolitan. The other singers will be MM. Edouard de Rearks, Plancon, Bars, Albers, Dufriche, Meux and Vanni and Mmes, Djella and Bauermeister, Bignor Mancinelli will conduct. Mme. Lilli Lehmann will on next Wednesday evening make her reappearance after two years of absonce as Brunnhilde in "Die Walkuere." Others in the cast will be MM. Van Dyck Pringle and Auton Van Booy and Mmes. Eames, Meiss linger, Roudez, Banermeister, Hinrichs, Mantelli Isolde" will be sung for the first time this season by MM. Jean and Edouard de Resske, Bispham, Pringle, Meffert and Meux and Mmes. Nordica and Me linger. At the Saturday matines "Lohengrin" will be sung by MM. Van Dyck, Edouard de Rearks, Bis ham and Muhlmann. Herr Schalk will conduct a the three Wagner performances. At the popular pe be sung by Mme. Sembrich, with MM. Salignac d, Vanni, Bars, Pirols, Dufriche and Vanni Big. Bevignani will conduct.

At the Metropolitan Opera Hou the following programme will be given: Overture, "Ermont". Liebealied, "Die Walkuere"...... Herr Dippel. Rondo et Caprice. Maud MacCarthy.
Air, "An Jenem Tag" (Hans Heiling)...
Anton Van Booy. ... Marsohner ... Faury Berceuse.
Spanish Dance. Maud MacCarthy.
Air, "Der Freischutz".
Herr Dippel. ...Webe ... Hande ...Schubert Herr Schalk will conduct. Rosenthal announces his fifth recital for Thurs

lay evening, Jan. 26, in Carnegie Music Hall.

Antoinetta Szumowska appounces a piano recital. to be given in Mendelssohn Hall on Friday after noon, Jan. 6, at 2:30.

Plunket Greene will arrive in this country early next month for an extended tour through the United States and Canada. He will give three open ing recitals at Carnegie Chi afternoons of Jan. 6, 9, and 16.

Blanche Marchesi, daughter of the famous singing teacher, Mathilde Marchesi of Paria, will make a concert tour in this country, beginning the middle of January. She is to leave Europe toward the end of this month, and will make her New York appearance in a song recital in Mendelssohn Hall on the afternoon of Jan. 20.

Schools to Be Disinfected in the Holidays. Col. Michael C. Murphy. President of the Board of Health, announced yesterday that during the holidays all the public school buildings in every borough would be subjected to a thorough fumigation and disinfecting. The work will begin on Wednesday.

Robbers Get \$1,300 in an Express Office. Erwoop, Ind., Dec. 24.—The United States Express Company's office was entered by robbers early yesterday morning and the safe blown open. Fully \$1,200 was secured by the

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAO-THIS DAY. Sun rises..., 7 22 | Sun sets . 4 37 | Moon sets. 6 26 HIGH WATER—THIS DAY. Bandy Hook. 5 42 | Gov. Isl'd. 6 14 | Hell Gate. 8 07 Arrived-SATUADAY, Dec. 24.

Ss Etruris, Ferguson, Liverpool Dec. 17 and Queenstown 18th. 8s Chicago City, Hunter, Bristol Dec. 8 and Swan-ses 10th. Sa Chicago City, Hunter, Bristol Dec. 8 as sea 10th.
Sa Orinoco, Muggab, Bermuda.
Sa Galileo, Fiaber, Rio Janairo.
Sa Saguranca, Hansen, Havana.
Sa Trinidad, Fraser, Bermuda.
Sa Grideness, Clark, Baltimore.
Sa Chettahoochee, Lawis, Boston.
Sa Iroquois, Kemble, Jacknowille.
Sa Bluchelda, Charles, Baltimore.
Sa Chettahocehee, Lawis, Boston.
Sa Iroquois, Kemble, Jacknowille.
Sa Bluchelda, Charles, Baltimore.
Sa Portia, Graham, Halfax.
Sa Manhattan, Bennett, Fortland.
Sa Auna Moore, Wetherfil, Philiadelphia.
Ship Hainatu, Jacob, Antwerp.
Bark Caliuna, Sinrich, Caleta Buena.
Bark Auburndale, Dow, Suenos Ayres.
Bark Ohas, Loring, Lunt, Savanna is Mas.
Bark Fran Schwabbe, Paulesen, Batavia.
Brig John McDermoti, Tooker, Trinidad.
[For later arrivals see First Page.]

Se Umbria, from New York, at Liverpool. Se Cymric, from New York, at Liverpool.

SAILED FROM FOREIGN PORTS. Se Paris, from Southampton for New York, Se Aurania, from Liverpool for New York, Se La Gascogne, from Havre for New York, Se Nomadic, from Liverpool for New York,

SAILED FROM DOMESTIC PORTS Es Seminole, from Jacksonville for New York. Es El Monte, from New Orleans for New York. OUTGOING STRAMSHIPS.

Sail Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Sail Wednesday, Dec. \$8.

.....12 00 ha

8t. Louis, Sonthampton... 7 00 A M
Teutonic, Liverpool.... 9 00 A M
Southwark, Antwerp... 10 30 A M
Trinidad, Bermuda... 8 00 A M
Beguranca, Havana... 1 00 P M
Ban Marcos, Galveston... INCOMING STRANSHIPS Strathisla. Knight of St. George Algoa British Empire.... Ban Marcos Knight Bachelor... Due Monday, Dec. 26. Due Tuesday, Dec. 27 Spaarndam ... Anchoria ... Westernland ... Federation ... Ormiston ... Leona ...

Dus Wednesday, Des. 28.

Due Thursday, Dec. 22.

......Liverpool..... Gibraltar

New Orleans

...Hamburg.... ...Amsterdam.

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TRINITY CLOCK RESUMES BUSINESS Stopped in the Big Snow-Some of Its Parts Busted.

The clock in the steeple of old Trinity Church, at the head of Wall street, celebrated Christm eve yesterday by starting in business again The clock stopped after the big snowstorm of four weeks ago, and since then has been thoroughly overhauled. Its works were found to be badly rusted and some parts of them have been replaced.

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BOYD .- On Friday, Dec. 28, at the residence of her son, James B. Boyd, New Brighton, S. L. Sarah Ann, widow of John J. Boyd, in the 79th year of her age. Funeral services will be held in Trinity Church,

New York, on Monday, Dec. 26, at 9:30 A. M. DORAN.—On Thursday, Dec. 22, Phebe, widow of Hugh Doran. Funeral on Sunday, Dec. 25, at 2 P. M. from her

GRAY.-On Doc. 22, 1898, at his residence in

Brooklyn, Joseph H. Gray, Funeral Sunday, Dec. 25, at 2:80 o'clock, from the residence of his son, 500 Monroe av., Elizabeth, N. J. Carriages will meet train leaving foot of Liberty st., New York, at 1:80. HALSTEAD.—Suddenly, at the Broadway Central Hotel, Dec. 24, 1898, Thomas Halstead.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services at the residence of his sister, Mrs. F. C. McLarin, 128 East 78th st., on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 11 A. M. Interment at con

IVES.-On Dec. 23, at Rye, N. Y., in the 75th year of herage, Caroline Clark Ives, widow of James M. Ives and daughter of the late Dr. Nathan S. and Beulah Clark, Funeral services at Christ Church, Bye, Moz Dec. 26, at 11:15 A. M. Train leaves Grand Con

tral Station at 10:06. JAFFRAY.—Suddenly, at Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 22, Percy Malcolm, son of Howard S. Jaffray, im the 22d year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at his late home. Willow Brook, Irvington-on-Hudson, on Monday, Dec. 26, on the arrival of train leaving Grand Central Station at 10:45, to which a special car will be attached.

JEROME.—On Friday evening. Dec. 23, at her res-

idence, in this city, Eatharine Hall Jerome, daughter of the late Ambrose Hall, and widow of Lawrence B. Jerome. Funeral private.

REAMER.—At the rectory, Church of the Holy Spirit, Bath Beach, Brooklyn, on Dec. 22, the Rev. John W. Kramer, M. D.

Rev. John W. Kramer, M. D. Funeral services at the Church, Benson and 20th avs., on Monday, Dec. 26, at 11 A. M. LEONARD.—At Newark, N. J., on Dec. 23, 1888,

Mrs. B. A. Leonard, wife of Major John Le Funeral from her late residence, 67 man av., to St. Columba's Church, at 9 A. M., Monday, Dec. 26, 1898. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend. Omaha and Phila delphia papers please copy.
MURPHY.—On Thursday, Dec. 22, James, beloved

husband of Margaret Murphy, nee McAuliffa native of Ballyhee, county Cork, Ireland, aged 54 years. Funeral from his late residence, 317 East 45th et., to-day at 2 P. M. NORBIS.—Entered into rest Saturday morning

Dec. 24, in New York city, Georgina, belo wife of Henry Nurris of Rye, N. Y. Funeral service at the Church of Zion and St

bus ava., Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 11 A. M.
TINSON.—On Friday, Dec. 28, 1898, Mrs. Caroline
Turner, wife of the late W. H. Tinson of New York city, in the 88d year of her age. Funeral services at the residence of her son-in-law, Edward E. Tucker, 199 Greene av., Brooklyn, on

Monday, Dec. 26, at 4 P. M. Interment private WEDEGARTNER.—On Thursday, Dec. 22, Lens beloved wife of Henry Wedegartner, in her 826 Belatives and friends are invited to attend funeral

from late residence, 858 Hancock st., Brooklyn, on Sunday, Dec. 26, at 2 P. M.

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COCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE.—Sunday. Dec. D 35. at 11:18 A.M., lecture by W. l., Sheldon of St. Louis, at Carnegis Music Hall, corder 57th at and 7th av. Subject: "The Feeling of Love, Personal and Religious." All interested are invited. TEMPLE EMANU-EL. 6th av. and 48d st.—To-dar I (Sunday), 11 A. M., Dr. Joseph Silverman lec-tures on "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." The public is invited.

New Zublications.

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